REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The above-identified patent application has been amended and reconsideration and re-examination are hereby requested.

Claim 6-8 have been canceled

Claim 5 has been amended to more clearly and distinctly point out the subject matter in accordance with 35 USC 112, second paragraph.

Claims 5 and 6 stand rejected under 35 USC 103. The Examiner also states that the forwarding engine 630 of Jacobs et al. is a CPU or microprocessor. It is applicant's position that the forwarding engine is not a microprocessor but rather appears to be a state machine. Claim 5 points out that there is a _**microprocessor**_ processing information sent thereto from a remote one of the directors, each one of the microprocessors having a CPU and a CPU memory, such CPU memory storing a queue for inbound information passed to such director for processing therein such information being sent to the remote director from an originating one of the directors. Claim 6 points out that there is a _**microprocessor**_ processing information sent thereto from a remote one of the directors, each one of the microprocessors having a CPU and a CPU memory, such CPU memory storing a queue for inbound information passed to such director for processing therein such information being sent to the remote director from an originating one of the directors.

In the event a petition for extension of time is required by this paper and not otherwise provided, such petition is hereby made and authorization is provided herewith to charge deposit account No. 05-0889 for the cost of such extension.

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<tr><td></td><td>Respectfully submitted,</td></tr>
<tr><td>May 7, 2007</td><td>/richardsharkansky/</td></tr>
<tr><td>Date</td><td>Richard M. Sharkansky</td></tr>
<tr><td></td><td>Attorney for Applicant(s)</td></tr>
<tr><td></td><td>Reg. No.: 25,800</td></tr>
<tr><td></td><td>P. O. Box 557</td></tr>
<tr><td></td><td>Mashpee, MA 02649</td></tr>
<tr><td></td><td>Telephone: (508) 477-4311</td></tr>
<tr><td></td><td>Facsimile: (508) 477-7234</td></tr>
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